

Subject: Newsletter from LA City Councilmember Paul Koretz (CD5)

From: "Councilmember Paul Koretz" <Paul.Koretz@lacity.org>

Date: 10/21/2017 08:04 AM

To: "Lisa Schechter" <lisa@mediadistrict.org>

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October 21, 2017

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Westwood Greenway: A Step Closer To Reality

Councilmember Koretz is pleased to announce that this week the Los Angeles City Council's Energy Climate Change and Environmental Justice Committee, which he co-chairs, cleared the next to last hurdle for the Westwood Neighborhood Greenway Project (WNGP), by approving Proposition O funding for the \$5,460,000 project. The WNGP will clean water pollutants from nearby streets and streams before it goes off into Santa Monica Bay, while also providing an island of native habitat for birds, butterflies, and other animals next to one of the busiest light rail stations in Southern California. In 2004, Los Angeles voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition O, which authorized the City of Los Angeles to fund projects (up to \$500 million) that prevent and remove pollutants from our regional waterways and ocean, consequently protecting public safety and meeting federal Clean Water Act regulations. The next step for WNGP funding is full City Council approval.

California Becomes First State to Require Pet Stores to Sell Only Rescue Animals

At the Michelson Found Animal Gala last weekend, Councilmember Koretz was delighted to honor State Assemblymember Matt Dababneh, co-author of AB 485, Pet Rescue and Adoption Act, signed into law by Governor Brown. The bill, co-authored by Long Beach Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell, will go into effect January 1, 2019. It requires all dogs, cats, and rabbits offered for retail sale in California to be obtained from animal shelters or non-profit rescue organizations.

AB 485 is based on the ordinance banning mill-bred animals from pet shops established in Los Angeles by Councilmember Koretz in 2013. As such, Los Angeles was the first major city in the US to do so. Councilmember Koretz has worked closely with Social Compassion in Legislation and other animal rights organizations as a major supporter of the bill as it has worked through the legislative process at the State level. In fact, he testified last month in Sacramento before it passed the CA Senate.

The goal is to reduce the number of animals sold through shelters and businesses from mass breeding operations known as "puppy mills" or "kitten factories" and reduce domestic animal populations and end unnecessary euthanasia of pets at shelters.

Happy 90th Birthday to Baseball Icon, Tommy Lasorda

Councilmember Koretz and the Los Angeles City Council honored Hall of Fame Manager Tommy Lasorda in the City Council Chambers this week following his 90th birthday on September 22.

Councilmember Koretz said that it was a highlight to "recognize Tommy Lasorda for his significant contributions. He has been a champion with the Dodgers and for the City of Los Angeles. He is regarded by many as baseball's most popular ambassador not only in the U.S., but around the world. As a lifelong Dodgers fan it was my honor to invite him to Los

Angeles City Hall and allow us to share in  his 90th birthday celebration."

While being honored, Lasorda's passion for the Dodgers shone through in the form of a plea for the franchise's 29-year championship drought to end. Mr. Lasorda thanked the City Council who referred to his birthday wish to go to the World Series and said, "May God bless each and every one of you — and if the Dodgers don't win this time, I think I'm gonna kill myself." Well, thank goodness, he got his wish.

So, in honor of Mr Lasorda, **Let's Go Dodgers!**



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Section 8 Waiting List Lottery Now Open Through Oct 29th

The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles is opening its Waiting List to receive applications for the Section 8 Program for the first time in 13 years. The Section 8 Program is a rental assistance program that helps very low income individuals and families afford safe and decent housing. Interested families must apply for a lottery that will determine placement on the new Waiting List.



To enroll in the lottery for the Waiting List opening, families will be able to apply [online](#) 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, from now until 5 p.m., October 29, 2017, utilizing their smartphone, mobile device or computer with internet access.



Interested individuals and families can go to [hacla.org](#) to apply or to learn more about the lottery, including frequently asked questions in English and 6 other languages. This page also includes a short video explaining how to submit an online application and a map to locations where applicants can go during the open enrollment period, if they do not have an e-mail account, online access, or otherwise need assistance submitting an online application.

No Standing in Line, Apply Online!

You will be able to participate in a lottery by applying online, 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week during that time. No paper applications accepted at any Housing Authority office!

No Wi-Fi, No Problem!

If you know anyone who does not have online access, please refer to the map on the website, to find organizations and libraries where they can get free computer access and help applying!

If you need assistance due to a disability, need language translation services, or communication in an alternative format, please contact the waiting list hotline at [888-816-6955](#). Individuals with hearing or speech disabilities using TDD or TTY technology may call California Relay Services by dialing 7-1-1 for assistance.

WORKING FOR YOU

Councilmember Koretz Tours Net Zero Energy City (Lancaster, CA) with Mayor Rex Parris

At a time when climate disruption is already seriously exacerbating the devastating damage caused by hurricanes, wildfires and other storms, Councilmember Koretz believes we, as a City, need to drastically reduce our greenhouse gas emissions as soon as



possible.



Toward that end, Councilmember Koretz recently traveled to Lancaster, CA, to meet with visionary Mayor Rex Parris and his team, tour the groundbreaking BYD electric bus factory, and hear about how Mayor Parris led Lancaster to its Net Zero Energy status in 2016.

Mayor Parris required all municipal buildings to be carbon neutral, reduced all carbon-dioxide producing elements in the City, purchased an entire electric bus fleet while building the factory to build them right in Lancaster, and made sure every new home is solar-powered and affordable.

As Mayor Parris said, "What's surprising about sustainable energy is, it's cheaper in the long run. If you're a home owner and don't have solar power on your house, you really have to look at how you manage your finances."

LOS ANGELES VALUES YOUR OPINION

Interim Motel Conversion Ordinance Public Comment Period Coming to a Close October 30th

The City Planning Department is reminding Angelenos that it is accepting public comments on the draft "Interim Motel Conversion Ordinance" through October 30th.



This ordinance is intended to streamline the process of making it possible to use old motels as small apartment buildings for Permanent Supportive Housing for homeless individuals and families. It responds to a 2016 proposal by Mayor Eric Garcetti to do so for homeless veterans and would apply to sites committed to Permanent Supportive Housing for at least 15 years.

The ordinance does not in and of itself convert any motels to this use, but in situations where an entity can establish site control (by purchase or lease) and contract with a provider to ensure that needed services would be available to the residents so that they could eventually move on to

regular housing, undertaking the conversion would be made simpler.

The ordinance is expected to be considered by the City Planning Commission some time in November. For more information on the draft ordinance and how to submit comments, please visit <http://planning.lacity.org/>, use the "ordinance" tab in the left column menu, and check out the documents in the "Interim Motel Conversion Ordinance" section.

East Valley Transit Corridor Project Public Comment Is Open Until October 30th

Metro and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), in coordination with the cities of Los Angeles and San Fernando, are evaluating the feasibility of a major mass transit project that would operate in the center or curb-lane along Van Nuys Blvd. from the Van Nuys Metro Orange Line Station north to San Fernando Rd. where it would proceed 9.2 miles northwest along San Fernando Rd to the Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink station.

The public comment period is open until October 30, 2017. Visit www.metro.net/eastsfvtransit for details about the project and for a list of ways to submit your comments. Please keep them coming!

OurLA2040 General Plan Update Community Conversations

For the first time in nearly fifty years, the City of Los Angeles is undertaking a comprehensive update to its guiding vision, the General Plan. This initiative, OurLA2040, will result in a new 20-year citywide plan to be adopted in 2020, which will put into place strong and visionary policies to help create a more prosperous, livable, and sustainable Los Angeles. To launch the OurLA2040 public engagement program, a series of

Community Conversations will be taking place throughout the City in a neighborhood near you! This is an opportunity to share your perspective on the topics included in the General Plan update. The first phase of this series is taking place in the month of October, focusing on the topics of Open Space and Community. Join your neighbors and friends to help spark new ideas and shape a better future for Los Angeles!

Save the Date!

Saturday, October 21, 10 a.m. – Noon
West Angeles Senior Villas, Community Room,
[6030 Crenshaw Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90043](http://6030CrenshawBoulevardLosAngelesCA90043)

Wednesday, October 25, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Emerson College, Assembly Room,
[5960 Sunset Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90028](http://5960SunsetBoulevardLosAngelesCA90028)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Westwood Library Free Concert is Fun for the Whole Family this Sunday, October 22nd, 2:30 pm

The upcoming third concert of the Westwood Library's 2017 Season features the Fiamo String Quartet, Westwood Library's Quartet in Residence, who will be joined by guest violist Travis Maril. They will present a wonderful program from the romantic era including *Alexander Glazunov – Five Novelettes, Op. 15 and Johannes Brahms – String Quintet No. 2 in G major, Op. 111 (the "Prater Quintet").*

The library garage and doors open on Sunday, October 22 at 2:30 pm at the Westwood Library, 1246 Glendon Avenue. The concert starts at 2:30pm and lasts approximately one hour with no intermission. Free admission and free parking at the library. After the concert, meet the musicians and enjoy a complimentary reception hosted by Jersey Mike's Subs and Diddy Riese, and the Friends of Westwood Library.

Boo! Looking for Halloween Fun for All Ages?



Please click on the image below to view the Department of Recreation and Parks' Spooky, Fright Night Fun Thriller Events happening in CD 5! Or [download](#) a full list of Halloween events happening at recreation centers and parks throughout Los Angeles. Happy Halloween!



COMMUNITY NEWS

Councilmember Koretz Joins Residents of Beverly Glen Annual Meeting



Councilmember Koretz and staff were delighted to return to the Residents of Beverly Glen Annual Meeting to welcome new board members and residents to the community along with the Los Angeles Police and Fire Departments. Councilmember Koretz discussed local

and legislative issues that are important to the community.

Valley Festivals with Neighbors and Friends

Councilmember Koretz and staff joined the throngs of friends, families and small businesses at festival celebrations over two weekends in our Valley communities. Team Koretz had a great time at the 30th Annual Encino Family Festival, formerly Taste of Encino, with members of the Encino Neighborhood Council.

Last weekend, Councilmember Koretz was thrilled to join in Sherman Oaks 90th celebration with fellow current and former neighborhood officials. Councilmember Koretz represented Sherman Oaks south of Ventura Blvd. from July 1, 2009 - July 1, 2012.

Team Koretz Ties Department of Recreation and Parks at the Holmby Park Lawn Bowling Club 90th Anniversary Celebration

Team Koretz and members of the Department of Recreation and Parks met up at Holmby Park Bowling Club for a friendly game of lawn bowling to honor the club's 90th anniversary. Holmby Park was originally part of an old Spanish land grant and was deeded to our City by Edwin and Harold Janss in 1926. One year later in 1927, the Holmby Park Lawn Bowling Club was established. In 1955, the well-known benefactor of Californian Senior Centers, Marcellus Joslyn personally paid for what is today the club's kitchen and ladies' locker room

in Holmby Park. In 1958, Mr. Joslyn financed the construction of the second green which was built over the old duck pond. The tied game was cheered on by existing members of the club including a few centenarians who are a testament to the outdoor exercise.

Adopt Some Love

Looking for a new furry companion? Check out these LA Animal Shelter Dogs and Cats of the Week from the West LA & East Valley City Animal Shelters. Please come meet our dogs and cats – they need homes now. The shelters are open Tuesday through Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm and Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm (closed Mondays). Click on any photo below for details.



[Green Apple Martiny](#)

[Widget](#)

[Casper](#)

[Seany](#)

Save the Date: Kitties in Council

Join us for cat adoptions on October 31st
at 10:00am in the 3rd Floor John Ferraro
City Council Chambers in LA City Hall,
200 N. Spring St.



LA Animal Services will bring cats that
need forever homes. If you are looking
for a new feline friend in your life, we hope
you will join us.

Follow Us



This message was sent to lisa@mediadistrict.org by:

Los Angeles Councilmember Paul Koretz
200 N. Spring Street, Rm. 440
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7005

